WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method of aggregating and maintaining data in a system having at
- 2 least a first and a second platform generating data, comprising:
- 3 receiving initial data from said first and said second platforms;
- 4 generating a staging table based on said initial data; and
- 5 associating standardized data with said initial data.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said associating includes generating a
- 2 cross-reference table correlating said standardized data with initial data from
- 3 said first platform and correlating said standardized data with said initial data
- 4 from said second platform.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
- 2 receiving updated data from said first and said second platforms.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
- 2 comparing said updated data with data in said staging table.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4, further comprising:
- 2 determining if said updated data includes new data.
- 1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein said determining indicates that said
- 2 updated data includes new data, the method further comprising:
- 3 setting a flag in said staging table;
- 4 comparing said updated data with said standardized data; and
- 5 determining if said standardized data should be updated to reflect said
- 6 updated data.
- 1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein said determining indicates that said
- 2 standardized data should be updated, the method further comprising:

- inserting said updated data as a new record in said standardized data; 3 establishing a cross reference between said new record and said initial 4 5 data. The method of claim 7, further comprising: 1 8. 2 resetting said flag. The method of claim 6, wherein said determining indicates that said 9. 1 standardized data should not be updated, the method further comprising: 2 updating a cross-reference table correlating said standardized data 3 with said updated data. 4 The method of claim 5, wherein said determining indicates that said 10. 1 updated data does not include new data, the method further comprising: 2
- updated data does not include new data, the method further comprising:
 determining if said updated data includes modified data;
 setting a flag in said staging table to indicate that said updated data
 includes modified data; and
 determining whether said standardized data should be updated.
- 1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said determining indicates that said
 2 standardized data should be updated, the method further comprising:
 3 updating said standardized data; and
 4 resetting said flag in said staging table.
- The method of claim 10, wherein said determining indicates that said
 standardized data should not be updated, the method further comprising:
 notifying said platform that said updated data has been rejected.
- 1 13. A system for aggregating and maintaining data, comprising:
 a first platform having an application program generating first input
 3 data;

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comprising:

4	a second platform having an application program generating second		
5	input data; and		
6	an aggregator comprising a processor, a comunications device in		
7	communication with said processor, adapted to receive said first and second		
8	input data, and a memory unit in communication with said processor and		
9	storing a program, wherein said processor is operative with said program to		
10	compare said first input data with data in a staging table;		
11	determine if said first input data are different from standardized		
12	data stored in said memory unit; and		
13	add said first input data to said standardized data if a		
14	determination is made that said first input data are new.		
1	14. The system of claim 13, wherein said processor is further operative		
2	with said program to:		
3	update said standardized data if a determination is made that		
4	said first input data are modified.		
1	15. The system of claim 13, wherein said processor is further operative		
2	with said program to:		
3	compare said second input data with data in a staging table;		
4	determine if said second input data are different from		
5	standardized data stored in said memory unit; and		
6	add said second input data to said standardized data if a		
7	determination is made that said second input data are new.		
1	16. The system of claim 15, wherein said processer is further operative		
2	with said program to:		
3	update said standardized data if a determination is made that		
4	said first input data are modified.		
1	17. An apparatus for aggregating and maintaining data across platforms,		

3		means for receiving initial data from a first and a second platform,	
4		means for generating a staging table based on said initial data; and	
5		means for associating standardized data with said initial data.	
	40 A	computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions	
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2	for performing steps, comprising:		
3		receiving initial data from a first and a second platform;	
4		generating a staging table based on said initial data; and	
5		associating standardized data with said initial data.	
1	19.	A method for aggregating and maintaining data from a first and a	
2	second platform, comprising:		
3		generating a staging table based on data from said first and said	
4	second platforms;		
5		generating a set of standardized data;	
6		generating a cross-reference table cross-referencing data from said	
7	first and said second platforms with said standardized data;		
8		receiving updated data from said first and said second platforms;	
9		identifying new data in said updated data;	
10		updating said standardized data to include said new data; and	
11		updating said cross-reference table to include said new data.	
1	20.	The method of claim 19, further comprising:	
2		identifying modified data in said updated data; and	
3		updating said standardized data to reflect said modified data.	
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